

# European Communities

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441.2(336)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## Working Documents

1976 - 1977

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6 December 1976

DOCUMENT 448/76

### Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on External Economic Relations

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 365/76) for a regulation on the total or partial suspension of Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural products originating in Turkey (1977)

Rapporteur: Mr E. MULLER

PE 46.544/fin.



By letter of 21 October 1976 the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities for a regulation on the total or partial suspension of Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural products originating in Turkey (1977).

The President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on External Economic Relations as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Agriculture for its opinion.

On 23 November 1976 the Committee appointed Mr E. Muller rapporteur.

It considered this proposal at its meeting of 23 November 1976 and at the same meeting unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution and the explanatory statement.

Present: Mr Kaspereit, chairman and deputy rapporteur; Mr Schmidt and Mr Martinelli, vice-chairmen; Mr Bayerl, Lord Castle, Mr Dykes, Mr Galluzzi, Mr Molloy, Mr Nyborg, Mr Radoux and Lord St. Oswald (deputizing for Mr Spicer).

The opinion of the Committee on Agriculture is attached.

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The Committee on External Economic Relations hereby submits the following motion for a resolution to the European Parliament, together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation on the total or partial suspension of Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural products originating in Turkey (1977)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council<sup>1</sup>,
- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 365/76),
- having regard to the report of the Committee on External Economic Relations and the opinion of the Committee on Agriculture (Doc. 448/76 ),

Approves the Commission's proposal.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No. C 257, 30.10.1976, p.3

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. The aim of this proposal for a regulation is the total or partial suspension of Common Customs Tariff duties for 1977 on certain agricultural products originating in Turkey. A similar arrangement applied in 1974 and 1975. The legal bases for these arrangements is formed by the Additional Protocol<sup>1</sup> and Supplementary Protocol to the EEC-Turkey Association Agreement, and a Council decision whereby with effect from 1 January 1974 Turkey must not be treated less favourably than the countries and territories benefiting from generalized tariff preferences. However, it must be remembered that the Supplementary Protocol - which was signed in Ankara on 30 June 1973 to take account of the accession to the Community of the three new Member States - has still not entered into force. If it has not done so by 1 January 1977, the regulation will be based on the Interim Agreement between the EEC and Turkey, as in previous years<sup>2</sup>.

2. The draft regulation provides for the total or partial suspension for 1977 of duties proposed by the Commission under the generalized preference system to be extended to Turkey, on an autonomous basis; these suspensions will, however, be confined to the products listed in Chapters 1 to 24 in respect of which no provision is made for more favourable treatment in the agreements with Turkey.

3. The Committee on External Economic Relations approves this proposal for a regulation without reservation, as it did last year<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No. L 293, 29.12.1972

<sup>2</sup> OJ No. L 277, 3.10.1973

<sup>3</sup> Schuijt Report (Doc. 308/75)

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Letter from the chairman of the committee to Mr Gabriel KASPEREIT, chairman of the Committee on External Economic Relations

Luxembourg, 9 November 1976

Dear Mr Chairman,

At its meeting of 4/5 November 1976, the Committee on Agriculture considered the proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on the total or partial suspension of Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural products originating in Turkey<sup>1</sup>.

As has been the case each year since 1974, the proposal for a regulation under consideration aims at implementing the decision taken by the Council of Ministers according to which, for the export of some of its agricultural products, Turkey is not to be treated less favourably than other countries benefiting from generalized tariff preferences.

The proposal contains a general safeguard clause (Articles 2 and 3) which provides for the re-introduction of Common Customs Tariff duties in the event of a serious loss or the threat of a serious loss to the Community or one of its regions.

However, since the list of products is essentially the same as in previous years - when no particular problem has arisen - there is little likelihood of the proposal causing loss to Community producers.

The Committee on Agriculture therefore approved this proposal, considering it only logical that tariff reductions granted to other countries within the framework of the generalized tariff preferences should also be extended to Turkey, which is linked to the Community by an Association Agreement.

Yours sincerely,

Roger HOUDET

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<sup>1</sup> Present: Mr Houdet, chairman; Mr Laban, vice-chairman; Mr Brégégère, Mr Früh, Mr Gerlach (deputizing for Mr Hansen), Mr Haase, Mr Hughes, Mr de Koning, Mr Martens, Mr Ney, Mr Pisoni, Mr Pistillo, Mr Pucci, Lord St. Oswald and Mr Vitale.

